

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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10
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 SCI-02 SS-15 L-01 NSC-05 CIAE-00

INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /054 W
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P R 190848Z OCT 74
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 559
INFO USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 4819

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OEXC, RO
SUBJECT: ROMANIAN PROPOSAL TO SPEED UP RENEGOTIATION OF US-GOR
CULTURAL RELATIONS AGREEMENT.

REF: A) BUCHAREST 4792 B) STATE 230166

1. WHEN SEEING MACOVESCU OFF THIS MORNING, I HAD THE CHANCE TO ASK DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER GLIGA WHAT HAD PROMPTED THEIR UNEXPECTED PROPOSAL FOR A GENERAL CULTURAL AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED DURING THE SECRETARY'S VISIT. HE SAID THAT SINCE AMBASSADOR BOGDAN HAD CABLED THAT THE DEPARTMENT WAS PREPARING TO PRESENT A DRAFT, MFA HAD DECIDED IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO PRESENT THEIR OWN DRAFT, PARTICULARLY SINCE THIS WAS THE ONLY AGREEMENT WHICH HAD A CHANCE OF BEING READY BY THE TIME THE SECRETARY ARRIVED.

2. I NOTED WE WERE IN GOOD ENOUGH SHAPE TO ENTER NEGOTIATIONS IF THAT WAS WHAT THE SECRETARY DESIRED, BUT EXPLAINED WHY I FELT IT MADE MORE SENSE TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS LATER IN THE YEAR AS EARLIER PROPOSED. GLIGA SAID THE ROMANIAN SIDE WAS NOT INSISTING AND WOULD UNDERSTAND IF WE DECIDED WE PREFERRED TO STICK TO THE EARLIER TIME TABLE.

3. REFTEL B) JUST RECEIVED. APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S PROMPT AND HELPFUL RESPONSE. WE WILL SEEK ROMANIAN AGREEMENT TO PROPOSED DATES, ALTHOUGH AS MENTIONED IN EARLIER MESSAGE THERE MAY BE CONFIDENTIAL

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PROBLEMS BECAUSE OF IMPENDING PARTY CONGRESS. THE DATES ARE

FEASIBLE FROM OUR STANDPOINT IN ANY EVENT. PAO HAS
APPOINTMENT AT MFA MORNING OCTOBER 21.
BARNES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BUCHAR04819
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740298-0660
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741033/aaaabbvu.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) BUCHAREST 4792 B) STATE 230166
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROMANIAN PROPOSAL TO SPEED UP RENEGOTIATION OF US-GOR CULTURAL RELATIONS AGREEMENT.
TAGS: OEXC, RO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005